

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A computer implemented system for managing the access of system resources in a database management system comprising:  
a lock manager that acquires a parent lock and one or more child locks on resource(s) of a database, ~~the parent lock has~~ the lock manager stores a reference count of the one or more child locks within the parent lock such that[[:]] and the parent lock is released upon release of all child locks associated therewith.
2. (Currently Amended) The ~~database management~~ system of claim 1, the parent lock is released upon the reference count attainment of a zero value.
3. (Currently Amended) The ~~database management~~ system of claim 1, further comprising a lock monitoring system that monitors the reference count of child locks associated with the parent lock.
4. (Currently Amended) The ~~database management~~ system of claim 3, as each child lock is released the reference count of the parent lock decrements by a value of one.
5. (Currently Amended) The ~~database management~~ system of claim 1 further comprising a lock hierarchy designated by the lock manager.
6. (Currently Amended) The ~~database management~~ system of claim 5, the lock hierarchy comprises at least one of a database lock, page lock, table lock and row lock.
7. (Currently Amended) The ~~database management~~ system of claim 5 further comprising a page scan optimization that maintains a last child lock until a next one is acquired.